



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING


RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

BRIAN J. WHISTON
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

MEMORANDUM

DATE: July 24, 2015

TO: State Board of Education

FROM: Brian J. Whiston, Chairman 

SUBJECT: Presentation on the Michigan Science Standards and Period of Public Comment

In 2011, Michigan became a lead state in a 26 state consortium to develop new standards based upon the Framework for K-12 Science Education from the National Research Council. Since that time, Michigan's science education community has been involved in the development and review of the standards, the creation of supplemental resources around these standards, and the development of a professional learning support structure to aid in the implementation of these standards. Starting in May 2014, the State Board of Education was presented with a series of informational presentations and discussion opportunities around the standards, and the impact they would have on students and educators in our state. The Michigan Department of Education (MDE), at the request of the State Board of Education, engaged in dialogue with individual legislators and other stakeholders to inform them of the standards, and the implementation considerations for adoption. Along the way, multiple stakeholder groups and their representatives have engaged in dialogue with MDE representatives to further inform the standards and the implementation plan that would support the transition to these standards, if adopted. The final draft version of the science content standards can be found at www.michigan.gov/science.

In order to complete the process, MDE staff will be conducting public information and feedback sessions in nine locations across the state. Additionally, an online option exists for those unable to attend a scheduled session. The information regarding the public information and feedback sessions, as well as the link to the online option, will be shared with the public following the August board meeting.

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